

Size: 839 acres
Mission: Perform research, development, testing, and evaluation for Naval aircraft systems and antisubmarine warfare systems; perform associated software development
HRS Score: 57.93; placed on NPL in October 1989
IAG Status: Federal Facility Agreement signed in September 1990
Contaminants: VOCs, heavy metals, firing range wastes, fuels, industrial wastewater sludges, nonindustrial solid wastes, paints, PCBs, sewage treatment sludge, and solvents
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$16.9 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$16.3 million (FY2029)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2001



Warminster Township, Pennsylvania

Restoration Background

In July 1991 and July 1995, the BRAC Commission recommended that Warminster Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division be realigned and closed. The installation closed in March 1997, with final transfer of property targeted for December 1998.

In FY79, metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), primarily trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethane, were detected in local groundwater wells. Studies have identified nine sites, eight of which were recommended for further investigation. Site types include waste burn pits, sludge disposal pits, landfills, waste pits, and a fire training area.

One underground storage tank and associated contaminated soil were removed between FY86 and FY90. In FY93, the installation signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit (OU) 1. Remedial Design (RD) activities for the site were completed in FY94. The installation's contract for an extraction and treatment system for the groundwater at OU1 now includes OU3 and OU4.

In FY93 and FY94, the installation completed groundwater Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities for eight sites. In FY95, it completed a Remedial Action (RA) for residential wells contaminated with TCE. The Navy distributed bottled water, installed temporary treatment systems at each affected well, and worked with EPA and the local water authority to provide public water service to affected residential areas. In FY96, groundwater RI/FS activities at Site 9 and the RD for Sites 4 and 8 were completed. During FY97, a source Removal Action was completed at Site 4 and another initiated at Site 6. The installation also completed a RA at OU3, began operation of an extraction and treatment system, and started long-term monitoring. Groundwater investigations for Area D concluded when an interim ROD was signed. The Navy and EPA held regularly

scheduled Tier II meetings.

A technical review committee, formed in FY88, was converted to a Restoration Advisory Board in FY94. The installation completed its community relations plan and established an administrative record in the same year. A BRAC cleanup team also was established in FY94. The installation completed the BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP) and a Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) in FY95. The property was divided into eight parcels, with 353 acres identified as CERFA-clean. Also in FY95, the installation began a Phase II EBS.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation issued a final RI report for Area D sources and a finding of suitability to transfer (FOST) for 29 acres to be transferred by public benefit conveyance (PBC). Fieldwork was completed and draft reports were issued for EBS Phase II work, including risk assessments. The installation initiated a Removal Action at Area A (Site 1) and conducted pump tests at Areas A and D. The groundwater monitoring program continued for perimeter, off-base, and Area C wells. Three findings of suitability to lease were issued for various buildings to be leased by the Federal Lands Reuse Authority. Supplemental investigations for Site 5 and suspected trenches were initiated. The latest version of the BCP was completed, and Tier II meetings continued on a regular basis.

The final ROD for Sites 5 through 7 (Area B) was not signed because of continuing field investigations at Site 5 and an ongoing RI/FS at Sites 6 and 7. The draft Phase III RI/FS for media other than groundwater was completed. An interim RD/RA for groundwater at Areas A and D was initiated; the final RD/RA cannot begin until the interim remedy is completed. The no further action ROD for source removal at Sites 4 and 6 has been postponed while the installation

determines the necessary interim steps for site cleanup. The RD/RA for Area B was delayed by additional field investigations. The interim remedy for Areas A and B groundwater, OU1, was also delayed.

Plan of Action

- Complete Removal Actions at Sites 1, 2, and 3 in FY99
- Initiate Removal Action at Site 8 in FY99
- Initiate additional Removal Actions at Site 6 in FY99
- Drill extraction wells at Areas A and D and connect piping to existing treatment facility in FY99
- Prepare Environmental Baseline Survey for Transfer and draft FOSTs for PBC and economic development conveyance parcels in FY99

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

